

FUNDING OPTIONS FOR TRADITIONAL APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS

Arkansas Apprenticeship Improvement/Enhancement Funds
Revised July 1, 2004

The State funding for the improvement and enhancement of Traditional Apprenticeship Programs within Arkansas permits Program Sponsors to select from either **Option A** or **Option B**. Once an option is chosen, the program sponsor will be expected to remain with that option until the end of the fiscal year (which is June 30). The State Apprenticeship Office may change the option if necessary.

NOTE: To ensure accurate and timely processing at the end of the fiscal year, funding will not cover classes held in June. Funding will cover classes held during the period July 1 thru May 31 of each year.

Option A: Funds will be provided on the basis of the "instruction hour" in related classroom instruction (RCI) classes. The Arkansas Apprenticeship Coordination Steering Committee in consultation with the Arkansas Department of Workforce Education shall establish the maximum instruction hour rate. (Previously, the rate was \$25.00/hour.) Depending on the number of programs, the instruction hour rate of funding may be less than the maximum rate established. These funds are not for on-the-job (OJT) instruction.

This option is designed to improve apprenticeship programs that are starting with one instructor or that have a few (less than 10) apprentices with one instructor. Funds may be used for instruction, materials, and supplies. No more than 15% of State funds are to be used to pay administrative expenses. These funds are not to be used for equipment.

Pursuant to Act 684 of 1989, a public school district, a state post-secondary/higher education institution may receive an administrative fee, from the Option A funds to cover costs of processing the records of an apprentice, which shall not exceed \$25 per apprentice for each course in which the apprentice is enrolled.

Funds will be disbursed on a reimbursement basis.

Option B: Funds will be provided on the basis of an apprentice "contact hour" in related classroom instruction (RCI) classes. The Arkansas Apprenticeship Coordination Steering Committee in consultation with the Arkansas Department of Workforce Education shall establish the maximum contact hour rate. (Previously, the rate was \$3.00/hour.) Depending on the number of programs, the contact hour rate of funding may be less than the maximum rate established. These funds are not for on-the-job (OJT) instruction.

This option is designed to improve apprenticeship programs that have many (more than 10) apprentices with one or more instructors or that have apprentices attending various, regularly scheduled post-secondary classes. Funds may be used for instruction, tuition, materials, and supplies. No more than 15% of State funds are to be used to pay administrative expenses. These funds are not to be used for equipment.

Pursuant to Act 684 of 1989, a public school district, a state post-secondary/higher education institution may receive an administrative fee, from the Option B funds to cover costs of processing the records of an apprentice, which shall not exceed \$25 per apprentice for each course in which the apprentice is enrolled.

Funds will be disbursed on a reimbursement basis.